

1877

1876 Paris Maine Town Report

Municipal Officers of Paris Maine

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN

AND

Superintending School Committee,

OF THE

TOWN OF PARIS,

FOR THE

Year Ending February 17th,

1877.

PARIS:

PRINTED AT THE OXFORD DEMOCRAT OFFICE.

1877.

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TOWN OFFICERS.

SELECTMEN.

G. F. HAMMOND,

G. H. BRIGGS,

W. E. CUSHMAN.

CLERK.

GEO. A. WILSON.

TREASURER.

N. DAYTON BOLSTER.

COLLECTOR.

JOHN BLACK.

S. S. COMMITTEE.

ISAAC ROUNDS,

J. S. WRIGHT,

SETH BENSON.

REPORT OF SELECTMEN.

VALUATION.

Whole number of Polls, 650.	
Amount of Resident Real Estate,	\$686,670 00
Amount of Resident Personal Estate,	246,583 00
Amount of Non-Resident Real Estate,	47,675 00
Amount of Non-Resident Personal Estate,	3,275 00
	<hr/>
Total valuation,	\$984,203 00

APPROPRIATED AND ASSESSED.

State Tax,	\$3,673 55
County Tax,	1,222 47
Town Debt and Interest,	2,500 00
Town Charges,	2,000 00
For support of Schools,	2,208 00
Fractional Overlay,	187 86
Delinquent Highway Tax,	292 14
Total committed for collection,	<hr/> \$12,084 02

Poll Tax, \$3.00.

Rate per cent., 10 mills on a dollar.

SCHOOL ACCOUNT.

Amount raised by vote of Town,	\$2,208 00
Interest on School Fund,	200 00
Mill Tax,	955 89
Bank Tax,	672 50
	<hr/>
Total,	\$4,036 39

Rate per scholar \$4.00.

The money was appropriated among the several districts as follows:

No.	Number of District.	Number of Scholars.	Amount Appropriated.	Amount Added.	Total.
1.—	Bolster,	44	\$176 00	\$	\$176 00
2.—	South Paris,	239	956 00		956 00
3.—	Webber,	46	184 00		184 00
4.—	Biscoe,	23	92 00	25 00	117 00
5.—	Porter,	34	136 00	10 00	146 00
6.—	West Paris,	66	264 00		264 00
7.—	Hall,	18	72 00	23 00	95 00
8.—	King,	27	108 00	22 00	130 00
9.—	Paris Hill,	107	428 00		428 00
10.—	Partridge,	31	124 00	16 00	140 00
11.—	Stearns,	25	100 00	25 00	125 00
12.—	Harbor,	55	220 00		220 00
13.—	Tubbs,	8	32 00	35 00	67 00
14.—	Mountain,	11	44 00	35 00	79 00
15.—	Whittemore	49	196 00		196 00
16.—	Tuell,	45	180 00		180 00
17.—	Fobes,	26	104 00	21 39	125 39
18.—	Hollow,	27	108 00	25 00	133 00
19.—	Trap Corner	40	160 00	15 00	175 00
20.—	Snow's Falls	20	80 00	20 00	100 00
Whole number of scholars, 941.					

TOWN FARM ACCOUNT.

Names and ages of present inmates :

Samuel Richards,	72	Albert E. Goett,	11
Hartwell Stevens,	57	Eliza A. Lewis,	36
Ellis Richards,	14	Mary E. Jackson,	31

Average number supported on the farm during the year, 6.

Schedule of stock, provisions, etc., on farm, Feb. 13, 1877 :

1 Horse,	30 pounds Butter,
2 Oxen,	25 pounds Lard,
10 Cows,	1½ barrels Flour,
3 Sheep,	3½ bushels Beans,
2 Shoats,	2 bushels Peas,
24 Hens,	75 bushels Potatoes,
18 tons Hay,	½ barrel Soap,
25 bushels Oats,	A good supply of garden sauce.

We have been well satisfied with Mr. and Mrs. Stevens's management of the farm and household matters, believing they have conducted in all things for the best interest of the town. They leave things in good order, indoors and out, and a good supply of

them. We have hired Philip Mason and wife for one year at three hundred and fifty dollars.

EXPENDITURES.		RECEIPTS.	
Overseer's salary,	\$400 00	Butter sold,	\$87 82
Extra labor,	11 00	Milk "	162 89
Groceries,	27 55	Stock "	100 00
Clothing and bedding,	34 72	Pigs "	27 00
Repairs and farming tools,	18 69	Eggs "	11 23
Blacksmith's bill,	10 10	Oats "	17 89
Flour,	42 12	Peas "	3 50
Corn and rye,	18 09	Beans "	30 87
Kitchen furniture,	11 77	Labor off farm,	11 80
Medical attendance,	4 21	O. W. Clark's pension,	69 00
Hay seed,	4 52	Wood sold,	32 00
Salt and fish,	8 39	Lumber sold and on hand,	46 77
Stock bought,	123 00	Wool sold,	2 64
Use of bull,	2 50	Bark "	6 00
Funeral expenses,	15 05	Corn "	41 48
Total,	\$731 71	Total	\$650 89
		Balance against the farm,	80 82

EXPENSES OF POOR OFF THE FARM.

Transient paupers,	\$81 32	
Jas. McAllister's family,	12 00	
Same, bill of 1875,	3 00	
Ariel Carver,	6 00	
Samuel Richards,	28 85	
Emeline Walcott,	32 00	
Jas. E. Pike's wife sickness & funeral charges,	120 16	
J. G. Price,	0 18	
Ezekiel Dammon,	5 25	
Lovina Starbird,	30 69	
Albert E. Goett,	21 15	
Ada Young, sickness and funeral charges,	56 20	
D. H. Blake, coffin and robe,	12 00	
Levi B. Rawson's wife, bill 1875,	10 00	
Expense to Auburn, pauper case,	2 80	
Cyrus Pratt,	10 00	
Total,		\$437 60

LIQUOR AGENCY.

WM. A. FROTHINGHAM, Liquor Agt, in acc't with the town of Paris.
Dr.

To cash on hand, last report,	\$37 14	
" for sales from February 17, 1876,		
to February 17, 1877,	1,344 99	
		\$1,382 13

Cr.

By cash paid State Agent,	\$990 47	
" freight and express,	12 75	
" town treasurer,	34 64	
" balance due on agent's salary, 1875,	2 50	
" agent's salary, 1876,	120 00	
" amount in agent's hands,	221 77	
	<hr/>	1,382 13

Statement showing profits of agency :

Cash received from sales, February 17, 1876		
to February 17, 1877,	\$1,344 99	
Liquors on hand February 17, 1877,	309 49	
	<hr/>	\$1,654 48
Liquors on hand February 17, 1876,	\$430 00	
Paid State Agent for liquors,	990 47	
expenses,	12 75	
agent's salary, 1876,	120 00	
	<hr/>	1,553 22
Net profit,		<hr/> \$101 26

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

N. D. BOLSTER, Treasurer, in account with the town of Paris
for the financial year ending Feb. 17, 1877.

Dr.

To cash in treasury Feb. 17, 1876,	\$191 22
from So. Paris Savings Bank, (loan)	1,287 82
" John Black, Collector, ('75 tax)	4,570 08
" do., (1876 tax)	2,583 64
for non resident taxes,	177 15
paid on highway tax, 1876,	393 30
mill tax, from State,	955 89
bank tax, from State,	672 50
interest on school fund,	65 06
from town farm,	307 13
pensions,	168 00
collector's and treasurer's deeds,	6 18

Liquor Agent,	34 64
town of Sumner, acc't J. L. Noyes,	76 57
" Gray, D. H. Blake and son,	32 00
" Woodstock, A. Carver's family,	67 00
Cyrus Twitchell,	1 00
C. W. Stevens, tax on town farm pd Oxford	2 43
school district No. ten,	32 73
town of Sumner, J. L. Noyes,	22 00
	<hr/> \$11,652 24

Cr.

By cash paid on town bonds,	\$2,000 00
" " coupons,	360 00
" So. Paris Savings Bank (loan)	1,287 23
interest on town notes,	178 93
O. P. Cummings note,	25 00
school districts,	4,251 83
for labor and material on highways,	1,306 70
for Snow's Falls bridge,	125 00
C. W. Stevens, land damage,	50 00
bal. overseer's salary on town farm, '75,	180 00
part do., for 1876,	50 00
town officers' bills for 1875,	364 15
do., 1876,	356 78
transient paupers,	81 32
James McAllister's family,	12 00
do., bill for 1875,	3 00
Ariel Carver,	16 00
Samuel Richards,	28 85
Emeline Walcott, funeral charges,	32 00
James E. Pike's wife's sickness,	12 00
J. G. Price,	6 18
supplies & medical attend., Mrs. Ripley,	30 09
Ezekiel Dammon,	5 25
Lovina Starbird,	30 69
Albert E. Goett,	21 15
Ada Young, sickness and funeral charges,	17 90
D. H. Blake, bill of 1875,	12 00
abatement of taxes for 1874-5-6,	214 12
Levi B. Rawson's wife, bill of 1875,	10 00

Expenses to Auburn, pauper case,	2 80
Cyrus Pratt,	10 00
for printing,	68 21
reference in Jewett tax case,	5 00
insuring farm buildings,	37 50
W. J. Wheeler, sundries,	5 00
J. H. Rawson, telegram,	60
Ed. M. Thayer, hauling lumber,	4 50
H. C. Davis, guardian papers,	2 14
to purchase stock for town farm,	100 00
tax paid Oxford part town farm,	2 43
Benj. Goodwin, care town house,	1 00
collector's and treasurer's deeds,	9 45
costs on property bid off for town,	11 36
stamps and stationery,	1 43
G. A. Wilson, salary for 1874,	9 00
John Black, constable,	10 00
for pensions,	174 00
cash in treasury,	129 61
	<hr/> \$11,652 34

We have this day audited the books and accounts of N. D. Bolster, Treasurer, and find the same correct.

G. F. HAMMOND,	} Selectmen of Paris.
G. H. BRIGGS,	
W. E. CUSHMAN,	

TOWN OFFICERS' BILLS.

SELECTMEN, ETC.

G. F. Hammond,	\$116 75
G. H. Briggs,	94 00
W. E. Cushman,	90 00

CLERK.

Geo. A. Wilson,	9 00
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TREASURER.

N. D. Bolster,	50 00
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COLLECTOR.

John Black,	181 26
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SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

J. S. Wright,	40 00
Isaac Rounds,	40 00
Seth Benson,	38 00

STANDING OF THE TOWN.

LIABILITIES OF TOWN.

Town Bonds,	\$4,000 00	
“ Notes,	2,800 00	
Indebtedness to school fund,	2,865 00	
Indebtedness to school districts,	1,113 49	
Due on town officers' bills,	402 23	
Due overseer town farm,	350 00	
Due Poland for Mrs. Pike,	108 06	
Due bills on account of Ada Young,	38 30	
Total liabilities,	<hr/>	\$11,677 18

RESOURCES.

Cash in treasury,	\$129 61	
Due on collector's bills of 1875,	98 59	
Due on collector's bills of 1876,	4,604 35	
Due on Bonney note,	532 88	
Due on Maxim note,	72 26	
Due from Otis Bent, for farm produce,	21 29	
Due from Liquor Agent,	221 77	
Interest on school fund,	200 00	
Town of Buckfield, Ada Young,	56 20	
From D. N. True,	61 00	
Woodstock, A. Carver family, bill of '76,	10 05	
Cash in hands of overseer,	83 55	
Total resources,	<hr/>	\$6,091 55
		<hr/>
		\$5,585 63

The above shows the standing of the town at this date, as near as can be ascertained. The indebtedness has decreased \$1,860.45. It will be seen that the pauper bills off the farm are large, but they are as small as we could possibly keep them. Since settling with the treasurer, Mr. Black, the collector has paid in the \$98.59 due on tax bills of 1875; which is a good showing on his part.

Two thousand dollars of the bonds become due this year,
and we recommend:

For town debt and interest,	2,500 00
For support of schools, 80 cents per inhabitant.	
Poor, and other charges,	2,000 00
Highways and bridges,	6,000 00

All of which is respectfully submitted.

G. F. HAMMOND,	} Selectmen of Paris.
GEO. H. BRIGGS,	
W. E. CUSHMAN,	

Paris, February 17, 1877.

Warrant for Town Meeting.

*To John Black, Constable of the town of Paris in the
County of Oxford, Greeting:*

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the town of Paris, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the town house in said town on Monday, the fifth day of March next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, to act on the following articles, viz:

ART. 1—To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

ART. 2—To choose all necessary town officers for the ensuing year.

ART. 3—To see if the town will accept the report of the and Superintending School Committee.

ART. 4—To see if the town will grant and raise such sums of money as may be necessary for the maintenance and support of schools and the poor, and the repair of roads and bridges, and to defray all other necessary town charges for the year ensuing.

ART. 5—To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise towards paying the town debt.

ART. 6—To see if the town will vote to charge interest on all unpaid taxes after Oct. 1st, 1877.

ART. 7—To see if the town will vote to accept a road as laid out by Selectmen, from Gilman Tuell's past Baptist Church to Woodstock road.

ART. 8—To see if the town will vote to set off Hiram Chase, Geo. O. Chase and Ezekiel Damon together with their estates, from school district No. 11, in Paris, and annex the same to school district No. 12, in said town.

ART. 9—To see if the town will vote to set off Ethan Willis, together with his estate, and also the estate of the Lurvey heirs from school district No. 19, in Paris, and annex the same to school district No. 6, in said town.

ART. 10—To see if the town will vote to allow David Sanborn and James A. Deering to draw their proportion of school money from district No. 2 in Paris, and expend the same in Oxford; also, to see if the town will allow J. A. Deering to draw his proportion the past year.

ART. 11—To see if the town will vote to allow Benj. R. Dowe to draw his proportion of school money from district No. 16 in Paris, and expend the same in Woodstock.

ART. 12—To see if the town will vote to instruct the Selectmen to petition the County Commissioners to discontinue the road from Joseph H. Childs' to Richard Robins' in Woodstock.

ART. 13—To see if the town will vote to instruct the Selectmen to license a Liquor Agent for the ensuing year.

ART. 14—To see if the town will accept the list of jurors as presented by municipal officers.

ART. 15—To see if the town will vote to set off Jonathan Starbird, together with his estate from school district No. 15 in Paris, and annex the same to school district No. 8, in said town.

Given under our hands at Paris, this 20th day of February,
A. D. 1877.

G. F. HAMMOND,	} Selectmen
G. H. BRIGGS,	
W. E. CUSHMAN,	
	} of
	} Paris.

REPORT OF

Superintending School Committee.

REPORT OF S. S. COMMITTEE.

DISTRICT NO. I.

John Swett, Agent—Summer term taught by Ella E. Cole. Whole No. of scholars in attendance, 23; average attendance, 16; wages of teacher, \$3.00 per week; length of school, 11 weeks. Miss Cole seemed to labor hard for her pupils, but lacked system and thoroughness in her method of instruction. Her order was not all that we could desire, but a more hearty support from the parents would have obviated this fault.

Winter term taught by C. F. Everett. Whole number in attendance, 31; average attendance, 26; wages of teacher, \$30.00 per month; length of school, 10 weeks. This school made fair progress, but we think that a more thorough and systematic method of conducting recitations would have produced far better results. Our teachers are confined too much to the text book. This school-room is sadly deficient in blackboards.

DISTRICT NO. II.

William J. Wheeler, Agent.—Whole number attending Summer term, 142; average attendance, 127; wages of teacher, —. Whole number attending Free High School. Fall term, 146; average attendance, 123; wages of teachers, —. Winter term still in session; no register. This school is divided into three departments, denominated High, Intermediate and Primary, under the management of F. T. Crommett, assisted by Abbie C. Morse and Anna B. Crommett. Mr. Crommett has personal supervision of the High School department, is a thorough, systematic, practical instructor, and is fully alive to the interests of his school. Miss Morse, who has charge of the Intermediate department, is a first-class teacher, is justly popular with scholars and parents, perfectly at home in the school room, governs with ease, loves

her work and pupils, and in turn is loved by them. Miss Crommett has presided over the Primary department with great credit to herself and pupils. In the school-room she is a model of patience and industry, and particularly adapted to her work. Miss S. Eliza Ripley, who assisted in the free high school, is a thorough, critical teacher, and gave excellent satisfaction. The examination of the several departments showed that there had been earnest work during the year. It is a lamentable fact, however, that many of the largest boys, who might be profited so much by the advantages provided for their education by this district, are idling away so much of their time about the village. This is a matter that can be remedied only by the parents.

DISTRICT NO. III.

Leander Swan, Agent.—Summer term taught by Hattie S. Fobes. Whole number of scholars in attendance, 27; average attendance, 20; wages of teacher, \$2.50 per week; length of school, 10 weeks. This was Miss Fobes' first effort, but her success was such as to rank her among our best teachers. Order good, instruction thorough, and the progress such as might be expected from the sympathy existing between parents, teacher and scholars.

Fall term taught by same; whole number of pupils in attendance, 22; average attendance, 19; wages of teacher, \$3.00 per week; length of term, 7 weeks. This school lost nothing by retaining the same teacher.

The winter term is still in session, Herman Fuller, teacher. Mr. Fuller is a popular teacher, and is meeting with his usual success in this school.

DISTRICT NO. IV.

Webster Jackson, Agent.—Summer term taught by Dora M. Jackson. Number attending school, 12; average, 9; wages of teacher, \$3.00; length of school, 9 weeks. This school began apparently with good prospects, but for some reason most of the scholars left before the close of the term. We believe, from what we can learn, that the teacher was not alone in fault.

Winter term taught by Adna Curtis. We were not notified of the time of opening this school, and as it closed prematurely, on account of scarlet fever, no visit was made. We are informed Mr. C. gave good satisfaction while teaching.

DISTRICT NO. V.

Frank Porter, Agent.—Summer term taught by Anna F. Favor; number of scholars, 18; average attendance, 14. Miss Favor is one of our oldest and best teachers, and her reputation suffered nothing in this school.

Winter term. Julian F. Young, teacher. Whole number attending school, 24; average attendance, 18; wages of teacher, \$30.00 per month; length of school, 10½ weeks. Mr. Young is a good scholar, and with experience, will make a first-class teacher. His method of instruction is good, though we would commend the exaction of a little more thoroughness from his pupils. On the whole we think it has been a fairly profitable term. The parents of this district have a duty to perform in remedying the irregular attendance of scholars.

DISTRICT NO. VI.

L. B. Swan, Agent.—Summer term taught by Addie I. Hammond. Number of scholars registered, 33; average attendance, 27; wages of teacher, \$4.50 per week. Miss Hammond is an experienced teacher, and well sustained her reputation in this school. Advancement good.

Winter term taught by Herman A. Fuller. Number of scholars registered, 46; average attendance, 41; wages of teacher, \$38.00 per month. Mr. Fuller is a worker in the school room. He governs his scholars by love. The scholars made good progress and acquitted themselves with credit at the examination. This district has been highly favored with two pleasant terms of school the past year.

DISTRICT NO. VII.

—, Agent.—Summer term taught by Princess Record. Miss Record, though inexperienced, taught quite a good school. Winter term taught by L. L. Gerrish. No Register.

Miss Gerrish possesses the essential elements of a good teacher, viz: ability, energy, enthusiasm and tact. She governs with ease, and conducts her recitations in a practical, systematic manner. We think this an unusually profitable term.

DISTRICT NO. VIII.

Samuel M. King, Agent.—Summer term taught by M. Rose Giles. Length of term 8 weeks; number of pupils in attendance, 15; average attendance, 13; wages of teacher, \$2.75 per week. This was Miss Giles' first school. She is a thorough scholar, and the school presented the appearance of having made good progress.

Winter term taught by same teacher. Length of term, 11 weeks; number of pupils in attendance, 16; average attendance, 13; wages of teacher, \$5.00 per week. The school at the opening appeared well, both teacher and pupils laboring hard, and manifested a good degree of interest. Toward the last of the school some dissatisfaction arose and part of the scholars left. This trouble, we think, was not wholly attributable to the teacher. There was some lack of order. We believe that Miss Giles, with more experience, will make a good teacher.

DISTRICT NO. IX.

H. C. Davis, Agent.—Summer term taught by Lulie B. Giles. Length of term 10 weeks; whole number of scholars, 23; average 17; wages of teacher, \$4.50 per week. The school made fair progress. There was some lack of discipline, but the teacher labored hard for the advancement of the school. Something ought to be done in this district, by the parents, to secure a better attendance of the scholars, especially in the higher school. The scholars are allowed to stay away from school without any good reason for so doing.

Primary department taught by Flora I. Ripley. Length of term, 11 weeks; whole number of scholars, 21; average, 19; wages of teacher, \$4.50 per week. Miss Ripley has an excellent faculty to interest small scholars, and gave good satisfaction as a teacher.

Winter term commenced by W. L. Gatchell, who, after three

weeks, was taken sick and unable to finish the school, and was succeeded by S. S. Knapp. Whole number of scholars, 34; average, 24; wages of teacher, \$45.00 per month. Mr. Knapp is an efficient teacher, and seemed to fully meet the requirements of what is needed in our common schools; his manner of conducting recitations was practical, his drill in reading excellent.

Primary department taught by Belle M. Garland. Whole No. of scholars, 33. This is Miss Garland's first effort. She manifested a good interest in the school, and had a good method of instruction. The progress of this, as well as Mr. Knapp's department, was somewhat retarded by sickness among the pupils.

DISTRICT NO. X.

T. A. Dean, Agent.—Summer term taught by Nellie E. Dean. Length of term 6 weeks; whole number of scholars, —; wages of teacher, \$3.50 per week. Miss Dean has a good reputation as a teacher, and fully sustained it in this school. On account of sickness in the district, the school closed several days earlier than was expected, consequently was not visited but once.

Winter term taught by Charles B. Harlow. Length of term, 9 weeks; whole number of scholars, 24; average, 19; wages of teacher, \$26.00 per month. Mr. Harlow succeeded in awakening an interest and enthusiasm in this school, which resulted in making it a very profitable term. Discipline good.

DISTRICT NO. XI.

Eldron H. Stearns, Agent.—There was but one term in this district, the past year. Length of school, 10 weeks; number of scholars, 18; average, 14; wages, \$50.00 per month. This school was under the instruction of C. B. Benson, Esq. We consider it one of the best; one who loves order, and thoroughness in recitations, could not fail to be gratified in visiting his school. Mr. Benson has a way of imparting knowledge peculiar to himself.

DISTRICT NO. XII.

A. J. Abbott, Agent.—Summer term taught by Emma J. Allen. Length of term, 10 weeks; number of scholars registered, 30; average, 26; wages, \$4.50 per week. Miss Allen succeeded well, and had the love and respect of her pupils.

Winter term taught by W. W. Andrews. Length of school, 60

days; wages, \$30.00 per month. Order good. Mr. Andrews, though young in experience, managed his school with tact that would do credit to an older teacher. Scholars acquitted themselves with credit. There are some very good scholars in this school.

DISTRICT NO. XIII.

There was but one term in this district, the past year, and that was taught by Emma Shurtleff; whole number of scholars, 5; average, 4; wages of teacher, \$4 per week. Miss Shurtleff has taught this school several terms before. She is an earnest, industrious, worker. This school passed a good examination.

DISTRICT NO. XIV.

Nathan Maxim, Agent—Summer term taught by Ida M. Bumpus; number attending, 11; average, 7; wages of teacher, \$3 per week. Miss Bumpus was young, but taught a fair school.

Winter term taught by Martha Maxim. No notice of the commencement of this school was given by the agent, and it was not visited.

DISTRICT NO. XV.

Wm. N. Daniels, Agent—Summer term taught by Nellie H. Rawson; length of term, 9 weeks; whole number of scholars, 21; average, 18; wages of teacher, \$3 50 per week. Miss Rawson is a good teacher, and managed this school with efficiency and success. A fall term of 4 weeks was taught by the same teacher.

Winter term taught by Charles J. Mellen. This school is still in progress, is under good discipline, and the efforts of the teacher will not fail to merit success. Mr. Mellen has a practical idea of the duties of a teacher.

DISTRICT NO. XVI.

David Andrews, Agent—Summer term taught by Lizzie Barrett; length of term, 10 weeks; number of scholars, 17; average, 15; wages of teacher, \$3 per week. School medium—order not so good as we could have wished.

Fall term taught by H. H. Bryant; length of term 60 days; wages of teacher \$30 per month. Faithfulness on the part of the teacher and promptness on the part of the scholars, made this one of the best schools. There was good progress. Some contention

arose in the district about the commencement of this school, but was not allowed to enter the school room.

Winter term taught by Lottie M. Hammond. This school was not visited but once, but had a good appearance then. Miss Hammond has the reputation of a successful teacher.

DISTRICT NO. XVII.

J. S. Mason, Agent—Summer term taught by Florence Barnes; length of term 8 weeks; number of scholars, 11; average 8; wages \$2 50 per week. This was a successful school—scholars made good progress.

Winter term taught by Ezekiel L. Porter; length of school, 10 weeks; number of scholars, 15; average, 10; wages of teacher, \$18 70 per month. This school was visited but once, and then there were but four scholars present. There did not seem to be a unity in effort between parent and teacher. There were so few scholars present at the time of visit, that it was impossible to decide where the fault was.

DISTRICT NO. XVIII.

A. H. Black, Agent—Summer term taught by Lizzie A. Bennett; length of term, 8 weeks; whole number of scholars, 8; average, 7; wages of teacher, \$4 per week. This school was not visited but once, but at that time appeared well.

Winter term taught by B. L. Swift; length of term, 9 weeks; whole number of scholars, 15; average attendance, 11; wages of teacher, \$26 per month. This school made good progress—the teacher and pupils appeared to work together for the same object, advancement.

DISTRICT NO. XIX.

Wm. Parlin, Agent—Summer school taught by Elizabeth L. Howe. Length of school, 10 weeks; whole number of scholars, 25; average, 21; wages of teacher, \$5.50 per week. Miss Howe came to us recommended as a successful and experienced teacher, but we do not consider this school a success. The advancement will not justify it.

Winter term taught, by Harry Hutchins. No register returned. Mr. Hutchins is young in years and experience, yet he met with fair success—improvement fair. There was some deficiency in order.

DISTRICT NO. XX.

John Black, Agent—Summer term taught by Alice K. Hammond. Length of school, 40 days; number of scholars, 11; average, 10; wages, \$2.75 per week. This was Miss Hammond's first effort; she acquitted herself finely for a beginner in teaching. She seems to be in love with the business, and the scholars all loved her—everything was in harmony.

Winter term taught by same teacher; length of term, 35 days; number of scholars, 13; average, 11. The fact of Miss Hammond's being employed the second time is a proof that the district appreciated her efforts.

REMARKS.

In making our report of the condition of the several schools, in town for the past year, we have felt constrained to make it as brief as possible, and give a fair and impartial idea of the progress of each school. Perhaps some may think that we have not used a sufficient amount of criticism as to some of the schools, while others may think we have been too severe. But we believe the schools in town have been fully equal to those in previous years, and in many respects better, that where they have not been all that was desirable, the teachers were not wholly to blame. Much of the difficulty that arises in schools is outside the school room. Parents are too apt to criticise, find fault and condemn the teacher without stopping to investigate.—They do not visit the schools; do not look after the interests and wants of their scholars, but seem to expect the teacher to be a "care-all" for their deficiencies. In several districts in town there is a great lack of interest on the part of parents. Their scholars are irregular in their attendance, are allowed to stay away from the school room for frivolous reasons, regarding their school duties as of secondary importance. No man ever succeeded well in business who was not regular and practical in his duties. This want of promptness and punctuality, greatly retards the progress of some of our schools. There should be a better co-operation between parent and teacher than now exists. "As is the teacher, so will be the school," and "as are the parents, so will be the teacher and and pupils." While the agents in this town have been generally successful in procuring good teachers, the past year, it is a lamen-

table fact that many persons engage in teaching, without any just sense of its importance, without any natural or acquired fitness for the duties to be performed, and without the least desire to become more enlightened; thinking more of the wages than giving credit and dignity to the profession. It has been from such persons, that the teacher's profession, and the community have long and greatly suffered, and such is likely to be the case for some time to come, unless there is a general waking up among the people in reference to the interests of education. A thorough education is not the only requisite of a good teacher. Talent and tact must be combined, and some practical ideas are essential in conducting recitations—something more than the mere routine of questions and answers as taken from the books. The pupil should be taught to think, as well as repeat. They are not the best teachers in our common schools, who can translate the most Latin and Greek.—We find in many instances teachers who present themselves for examination, and who are well informed in the advanced studies, but are wonderfully deficient in the rudiments, or elementary branches. In this last respect we believe that the females are less deficient than the males, therefore we recommend the employment of female teachers in our smaller schools, as a means of better advancement, thereby securing longer terms, and more efficiency. Agents should secure the services of such teachers as are aiming to make teaching a profession, who have a love for the work, which is the first requisite of a successful teacher. We find some school rooms deficient in blackboards, and nearly all lacking maps, charts and other apparatus, by which the teacher can illustrate and explain the lessons. We recommend the supplying of these deficiencies by the districts.

ISAAC ROUNDS,	} S. S. Committee
JAMES S. WRIGHT,	
SETH BENSON,	
	} of
	} Paris.

